

A BREAK FROM THE CITY



Submitted photos

ABOVE: Youths from the Kulshan Creek and Casa de San Jose neighborhoods in Mount Vernon went on a combined field trip for the first time on Jan. 15 to count bald eagles on the Skagit River between Lyman and Gilligan Creek. They attended an eagle presentation at the Mount Baker Ranger District taught by North Cascades Institute graduate students, then continued upriver with staff from the Mount Vernon Police Department, U.S. Forest Service, Catholic Community Services, the Wild and Scenic Institute, and Outdoors for All.



LEFT: Jonathon Suarez of the Kulshan Creek neighborhood conquers a large root wad Jan. 15 on a sandbar along the Skagit River. Suarez and other Mount Vernon youths were on a hot-cocoa break during the eagle-watching raft trip.